

County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

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September 29, 2010

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To:

All Department Heads

From:

William T Fujioka

Chief Executive Officer

NOVEMBER 13, 2010 HOMEWALK

In this time of economic crisis, it is more important than ever to focus on permanent solutions to end homelessness in Los Angeles County. The United Way of Greater Los Angeles has taken an important step in an effort to bring light to the issue of homelessness in Los Angeles County by sponsoring the Fourth Annual HomeWalk, "The Walk to End Homelessness" on Saturday, November 13, 2010. The Chief Executive Office is leading an effort to solicit County employees' involvement in this event. Together, we can help to make a meaningful difference in the lives of over 43,000 homeless men, women, and children.

HomeWalk is a non-competitive 5K walk in support of the United Way's *A Pathway HOME* Initiative. This Initiative provides community support for existing efforts that address the issue of homelessness. The funds raised via HomeWalk will help to increase access to permanent, affordable housing with support services like health care, job training, and child care for homeless families and individuals.

Please encourage your staff to participate in this event by visiting www.HomeWalkLA.org and clicking on the register tab; staff can register as part of the "Los Angeles County Team," or your Department can register as a separate "Walk Team." Registering online is fast and easy. If your Department wishes to create their own team, or if you join the "County Team," you will need to designate an individual to be your Department's lead. Your lead will be responsible for recruiting walkers and promoting fundraising, and monitoring your Department's progress. Our goal is to surpass our 2009 County contribution of over 50 walkers and \$10,670 raised!

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Once your Team is registered, United Way will send your Department a Welcome Packet that includes donation forms and other information about HomeWalk. You can start fundraising immediately by downloading a donation form off the website and distributing them to the staff in your Department. Please note that if an individual is unable to walk with your Department, they can sponsor someone on the team and/or make a general donation.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Michael Castillo of the Service Integration Branch at (213) 974-4652, or via email at mcastillo@ceo.lacounty.gov.

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